

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03 INR-10

INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 EURE-00 /188 W

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P R 191417Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7635

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T PARIS 6818

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: ENERGY: FRENCH DEMARCHE ON EC ENERGY POLICY

REF: LUXEMBOURG 172; THE HAGUE 1379

1. ON RECEIPT OF REFTEL A, EMBOFF CALLED ON FOREIGN
MINISTRY WORKING LEVEL OFFICIAL (VIGNAL) MARCH 19 AND
INQUIRED ABOUT GOF EXPECTATIONS FROM EC IN ENERGY FIELD
OVER COMING PERIOD. WE RECEIVED EVASIVE ANSWERS. FOL-
LOWING PUBLICATION OF PRESS ITEMS MARCH 19 FROM LONDON,
WE CALLED TO REQUEST DETAILS OF REPORTED FRENCH PROPOSAL.
VIGNAL APPEARED SURPRISED THAT PRESS WAS ALREADY AWARE OF
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FRENCH INITIATIVE, WHICH HE SAID GOF HAD EXPECTED TO

REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.

2. FRENCH PROPOSAL, ACCORDING TO VIGNAL, IS THAT EC ESTABLISH SEMI-AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATION ("A NASA FOR ENERGY") WHICH WOULD HAVE SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND BUDGETARY INDEPENDENCE IN AREAS OF ENERGY R & D, AND WOULD SERVE AS ADVISORY BODY TO EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON WIDE RANGE OF ENERGY ISSUES. FRENCH PROPOSAL IS IN VERY GENERAL TERMS, AND LEAVES DOOR OPEN FOR EXPANSION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN FUTURE. VIGNAL SAID PROPOSED SEMI-AUTONOMOUS NATURE OF ORGANIZATION REPRESENTS EFFORT TO OVERCOME POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES OF DECISION MAKING WITHIN REGULAR EC BODIES. STONE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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